

Linda S. Adams
Secretary for Environmental Protection
California Environmental Protection Agency
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95812

Re: Santa Susana Field Laboratory
Ventura County, California

Dear Secretary Adams:

Thank you for your letter of January 15 responding to my letter of December 6, 2007 requesting the State of California's position on the placement of Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL or Site) on the federal Superfund National Priorities List (NPL). We understand that the State, in recent months, has undertaken numerous actions intended to ensure an expedited and thorough cleanup of the Site. Your letter also requests an additional 6 months to continue those processes and to conduct additional evaluation of how NPL listing may impact the future investigation and cleanup of SSFL. Based on your request, EPA will not pursue NPL listing for SSFL in the spring NPL update.

We are extremely encouraged by the Letter of Intent which you signed along with numerous community activists and environmental groups. In combination with the Letter of Intent between the State and Boeing, we hope that these developments will provide a strong framework for meeting the ultimate project goals. Please keep us informed as to the progress of your negotiations with Boeing.

In your letter to us you have requested a variety of assistance from EPA. We are open to discussing EPA assistance on this project. EPA is in the process of setting up a meeting with representatives of Cal EPA and DTSC to discuss, in detail, the requests for EPA assistance set forth in your letter.

We have several initial concerns about your request for EPA to take the lead role for the radiological survey of the entire site. One of the primary reasons that we sought NPL listing was to give us our strongest tools for dealing with the radiological portions of SSFL. Without NPL listing, our authority and resources are limited. In reading the Letter of Intent by Boeing, Boeing seems willing to fully characterize and clean up all of the contamination, including radiological contamination. If Boeing commits to this work, it makes the most sense for the State to retain the lead for all aspects of the site. While your letter refers to the H.R. 2764, the provisions of H.R. 2764 extend only to Area 4, not the entire site.

If your negotiations with Boeing fall through and if you would then like EPA to take the lead for the radiological survey, EPA would want its strongest tools and would expect the State to support NPL listing in the Fall of 2008.

We look forward to meeting with your representatives to discuss your requests for EPA assistance. EPA shares your desire to ensure a comprehensive cleanup at the Santa Susana Field Laboratory. Please contact Keith Takata at (415) 947-8709.

Sincerely,

Wayne Natri
Regional Administrator

cc:

The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger
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Sacramento, California 95814

The Honorable Diane Feinstein
United States Senate
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The Honorable Barbara Boxer
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The Honorable Elton Gallegly
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The Honorable Brad Sherman
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